



Virg Bernero, Mayor

The source for recycling,
composting, refuse, and
bulk item collection information
and waste reduction education
for Lansing residents

Photo courtesy of Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau

Greensheet

City of Lansing Waste Reduction Services Newsletter

New Guidelines for Household Battery Recycling



The City of Lansing is now accepting rechargeable batteries at the Waste Reduction Services office, located at 601 E. South St, 2nd floor, during office hours (M-F, 8am-4pm.). Rechargeable batteries include those commonly found in items such as phones, cordless power tools, two-way radios and digital cameras. **Single-use household batteries, such as alkaline and carbon-zinc batteries are no longer accepted.** The Ingham County Health Department, who administered the battery collection program, recently made the decision to cancel it due to high processing costs. A complete list of locations accepting rechargeable batteries can be found at www.capitalareagreenmap.org.

The Facts About Rechargeables:

- Rechargeables have improved dramatically. Some can be recharged 1000 times or more.
- Some rechargeables contain lead, lithium, and cadmium and should be recycled.
- Rechargeables save money. Over their lifetime, they can save hundreds of dollars in batteries and keep hundreds of batteries out of the landfill.
- Keep extra sets of batteries on hand to provide the convenience of the more common household batteries.
- Follow instructions for initial charging times (usually overnight) before using for the first time.

Use of Rechargeables (compared to disposables) can result in:

- less than 5% of the non-renewable natural resources consumed
- 1/20 the impact on global climate change (CO2)
- over ten times less of an impact on water pollution
- up to 30 times less air pollution and 9 times less impact on air acidification (acid rain)
- less packaging waste (one pack of rechargeables = 93 packs of disposables)
- reducing the amount of batteries that end up in landfill



WRS Hotline: 517-483-4400
E-mail: recycle@lansingmi.gov
Web site: www.lansingrecycles.com



Seasonal yard waste collection
ends the week of November 30th.

MORE information inside.



Get Ready for the Leaves to Fall!

Tips For Handling Leaves and Other Yard Waste Materials

As always, WRS highly encourages backyard composting. Composting leaves, grass clippings and garden wastes provides an easy way to handle yard waste, plus once turned into compost, it provides a rich organic supplement for the soil. Free compost information packets are available, simply call 483-4400 or email recycle@lansingmi.gov to request one.



Take advantage of our Fall compost bin sale – Backyard compost bins will be sold on Saturday, September 12, 2009. See page 6 for more details.

Other Lawn Care Tips:

Leave the Grass Clippings on the Lawn! This is the easiest way to manage grass clippings. Simply leave them alone and let them degrade into the soil, providing valuable nutrients to the lawn.

Mulch! Rake leaves onto flower and vegetable garden beds. Leaves make excellent mulch and break down providing much needed organic matter for the garden.

You may not be able to handle all the leaves and yard waste materials on your own. **The City's yard waste collection will continue through the week of November 30, 2009.** Please feel free to set out as many paper yard waste bags or bundles as necessary, provided each one weighs approximately 30 pounds or less.

Please DO NOT Rake Leaves Into Street

Every year the Public Service Department receives calls from residents who witness their neighbors raking leaves into the streets. Each time a complaint is received, an enforcement worker must respond to the situation. When leaves are placed in the street, it can create hazardous driving conditions, clog catch basins or worse, children hiding in piles of leaves have been known to get injured when cars drive over piles and drivers can't see them.

**The City of Lansing
DOES NOT ALLOW LEAVES
TO BE RAKED INTO STREETS.**

So please handle your leaves responsibility by using the City's convenient curbside pickup, your neighbors will appreciate it.

City of Lansing Composting Operation

In an effort to control expenses, the Operations & Maintenance Division of the Public Service Department is composting some of the leaves collected each fall by our curbside service and through our annual leaf collection operation. This effort takes a waste product and turns it into a valuable resource that can be used for various projects throughout the city.



- Thank you for your cooperation in using paper yard waste bags. This effort has helped us reduce the amount of injuries to our drivers!

- Please do not leave basketball hoops in the street, they can create a traffic hazard.

Holidays & Important Dates to Remember

Collection for city observed holidays and the rest of the week following the holidays will be delayed by one day. Friday collections will take place on Saturday.

Visit us on the Web! www.lansingrecycles.com

WRS Hotline: 517/483-4400 Email: recycle@lansingmi.gov

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Labor Day. Office closed. Collections the week of September 7th will be delayed by one day.
- 12 Compost bin/rain barrel sale. See page 6 for details.
- 26 Computer & Electronics Recycling Collection. See page 7 for details.
- 30 Garden Plant Plastics Recycling Collection. See page 6 for details.

OCTOBER

Normal Service Schedule

NOVEMBER

- 11 Veterans Day. Office closed on Wednesday, November 11th. Collections on Wednesday and the rest of the week following will be delayed by one day.
- 19 Green Holiday event/Holiday light recycling event. See page 7 for details
- 26 Thanksgiving. Office closed on 26th and 27th. Collections on Thursday and the rest of the week following will be delayed by one day.

NOVEMBER

- 30 Seasonal yard waste collection ends the week of November 30th.

DECEMBER

- 24-25 Christmas. Office closed on the 24th and 25th. Collections on Thursday and the rest of the week following will be delayed by one day.
- 31 New Year's Eve. Office closed. Collections on Thursday and the rest of the week following will be delayed by one day.

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day. Office closed. Thursday and Friday collections delayed by one day.
- 4 Holiday tree collection begins the week of January 4th and continues through the week of January 11th.
- 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Collections the week of January 18th will be delayed by one day.

FEBRUARY

Normal Service Schedule

Christmas Trees

Will be picked up starting the week of January 5th, 2010. Trees need to be at the curbside on the normal collection day and should be free of plastic bags, ornaments and other materials. *Please cut trees taller than 6 feet in half.*

The seasonal yard waste collection will end the week of November 30th, and will resume in the Spring of 2010.

What, When, Why and How

Visit us on the Web! www.lansingrecycles.com

WRS Hotline: 517/483-4400 Email: recycle@lansingmi.gov

Recyclables: Curbside & Drop-Off

Place all items at the curb
Containers must be
Bags, bins, or bundles
must be visible

Separate recyclable materials
Recyclables must be set out
Place bin to the left of any

YARD WASTE



Yard Clippings (Seasonal Collection)

Place leaves, grass clippings, or garden wastes in paper bags. Do not use City of Lansing trash bags, blue carts or private waste hauler carts for yard clippings. Brush and tree trimmings must be less than 4 feet in length and less than 2 inches in diameter. Bundle securely with string or twine, or place in paper bags. NO wire. Paper lawn care bags are available at many local grocery and convenience stores.

CURBSIDE

Glass

Clear and brown food jars and beverage bottles.

Rinse clean and remove lids. (Put lids with cans). No drinking glasses, Pyrex, window panes, dishes, or light bulbs.



Metal

Steel (tin) cans and aluminum cans, trays, and

clean foil. Rinse clean. Remove top and bottom if possible. PLEASE FLATTEN. No Gasoline, aerosol or paint cans, wire, or scrap metal.



Plastic Bottles and Jugs

HDPE #2 or PET #1 stamped on bottom. Only bottles or jugs with threaded neck. HDPE #2 must have a seam on the bottom and sides. Clear and green PET #1 containers only. Rinse clean, remove and discard cap. Please flatten.

No used motor oil jugs, wide mouth containers, food tubs (butter, sour cream, cottage



cheese, etc.), plastic bags or #7/compatible with #2.

Newspaper (Including Inserts)



Place in brown paper grocery bag or stack and bundle with string or twine. Place newspapers beside or inside green bins. **Please place mixed papers and junk mail in separate paper bag.**

Magazines, Catalogs, Mixed Paper, and Junk Mail

Includes almost anything that comes inside a mailbox, such as junk mail, flyers, plain or windowed envelopes, office paper, letterhead, magazines, catalogs, colored paper, stationery and shredded paper. Must be in brown paper grocery bag or bundled with string or twine. No cardboard, boxboard, telephone books or plastic of any kind. **Please place newspapers in separate paper bag.**



DROP-OFF

Location: 530 E. South Street at the corner of South and Beech Streets. Follow S. Washington Ave. to South St., which is located just north of the railroad tracks. (South St. runs UNDER the Cedar St. viaduct.) Hours: 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Corrugated Cardboard

Corrugated cardboard is a two-layer cardboard with a wavy middle layer. Please flatten all boxes before placing in the cardboard collection bin. Drop-off only! Cardboard will not be recycled if placed curbside. Do not place in green recycling bins.

Telephone Books

Any type of old phone book accepted. No plastic, catalogs or other books. Not recycled curbside, Drop-off only!



Rechargeable batteries only.

Accepted in WRS office, 601 E. South St., 2nd floor, M-F, 8am-4pm



Cell phones

Recycled in WRS Office, 601 E. South St., 2nd Floor. M-F, 8-4



Magazines, Catalogs, Mixed Paper and Junk Mail

Includes almost anything that comes inside a mail-box, such as: junk mail, flyers, envelopes (windows okay), office paper, letterhead, magazines, catalogs, colored paper, stationery and shredded paper.



Athletic Shoes

Athletic shoes only (all brands accepted). No metal, cleats or spikes. No dress shoes, sandals, boots or other types of shoes will be accepted. As part of Nike's Reuse-A-Shoe program, this is an on-going collection with many drop-off locations throughout the tri-county area. Call 483-4400 or visit www.lansingrecycles.com to find other sites near you.



Boxboard

Includes thin, lightweight containers used to package various items including cereal, cookie and crackers, shoes and many other products. No boxes that were stored in refrigerator or freezer. Remove any plastic liners. Combine boxboard with corrugated cardboard.



What, When, Why and How

by 7 a.m. on collection day.
off the curb by 7 p.m.
must not exceed 30 lbs. and
from the street.
and yard waste from trash.
with green recycling bin.
obstruction (trees, carts, etc.)

Visit us on the Web! www.lansingrecycles.com
WRS Hotline: 517/483-4400 Email: recycle@lansingmi.gov

Call 483-4400 to get signed up today! The City of Lansing has provided trash collection services for over 90 years, making us the leader in convenient curbside pickup. You can count on our affordable weekly collections. Our range of services and multiple cart sizes are sure to meet the needs of any size household.

NO Hazardous waste, gasoline, or other explosive materials, and no wet paint, herbicides, pesticides, hot ash or coals. Cardboard can be picked up with trash if flattened and bundled, then placed next to city trash carts or bags.
Please double bag animal waste and diapers.

Trash Disposal

Blue Billy Trash Carts

These convenient and strong roll-out carts are for trash only. All trash in the carts must be bagged. Bagging trash will help keep carts clean and minimize odors. Select the size of Blue Billy cart which suits your needs:

Billed quarterly, pre-paid service

32-gal. cart= \$38.00 for 3 months

65-gal. cart= \$43.00 for 3 months

95-gal. cart= \$49.00 for 3 months

(allowed up to 3 extra 30 gal bags on side of 95 gallon cart)

Prices are subject to change.
Front door pickup is available.
Please call 483-4400 for details.

Payment options:

Pay with Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover by calling 483-4400.

Send checks or money orders to:

City of Lansing, WRS

601 E. South Street, Lansing, MI 48910

Pay in person at: 601 E. South Street (NO cash accepted) A drop box is available for after hours payments.

(see map on back page for directions)

Blue City Trash Bags

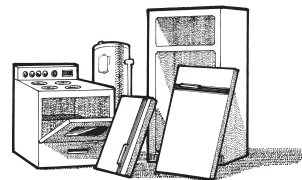
Blue bags are available at many local grocery and convenience stores. The cost is \$8.75 for a package of five 30 gallon bags (prices subject to change).



Bulk Trash Items

Large items over 30 lbs. and longer than 4 feet, such as appliances or furniture, require a bulk collection sticker. Stickers are available at courtesy desks of many local grocery stores for \$33.00 per sticker (prices subject

to change). Call the WRS Hotline at 483-4400 for a list of stores selling bulk-item stickers. Each individual item must be tagged.
NOTE: Refrigerator and freezer doors MUST be removed. Free bulk stickers are available to low income residents. Call 483-4400 for details.



Hazardous Waste

The Ingham County Health Department collects household hazardous waste, such as pesticides, chemicals and oil-based paints from April – September. Contact 272-4145 for more information.



Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL's)

Can be dropped off at the BWL customer service center 1232 Haco Drive, from 8-5, M-F or any local Home Depot store.

Please double bag in sealable plastic bags.



Community Activities & Events

Visit us on the Web! www.lansingrecycles.com

WRS Hotline: 517/483-4400 Email: recycle@lansingmi.gov

COMPOST BIN & RAIN BARREL SALE

Date: Saturday, September 12, 2009

Location: Foods For Living parking lot,
2655 E. Grand River Ave.

Time: 9am-3pm



The Earth Machine Compost bin

Composting provides an excellent soil amendment for healthy gardens, lawns and house plants. Composting also improves soil health, porosity, fertility and water holding capacity.

- \$40.00/each (home composting instruction booklet included with purchase)
- 80 gallon capacity
- Easy snap together assembly
- Convenient harvest door
- Twist locking lid
- Made of recycled materials
- Fits any vehicle



The System Rain Barrel

Save water, save money! Did you know that one inch of rain falling on a 1,000 sq. ft. roof harvests as much as 600 gallons of rainwater? Rain barrel use reduces rainwater run-off that carries sediment, grease, pesticides and fertilizers into local waterways. A rain barrel allows you to capture water for use in the lawn and garden.

- \$49.00/each
- 55 gallon capacity
- Mosquito screen locked into lid
- Spigot for easy retrieval of water
- Overflow hose

SPECIAL EVENT TO RECYCLE PLASTIC GARDEN POTS & FLATS

Date: September 30, 2009

Location: Van Atta's Greenhouse
9008 Old M-78, Haslett

Time: 12:00-6:00pm

Items accepted: Pots, containers, flats, plug trays, shuttle trays & cell packs. Look for the following symbols on the bottom of containers:



HDPE – High Density Polyethylene



PP – Polypropylene



PS – Polystyrene

Items should be free of dirt, debris and stacked according to size, type and number.

Materials will be taken to a local recycler to be made into more plant trays and cell packs, plastic lumber, drainage tiles, shipping containers for the automotive industry, extrusions for the furniture industry and drainage tiles.

EXAMPLES OF ITEMS ACCEPTED

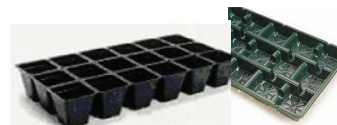
Pots of any size:



Cell Packs:



Flats & Plug Trays:



Sponsored by:



**Regional Recycling
Coordinating Committee**

Special Recycling Collections

Visit us on the Web! www.lansingrecycles.com
WRS Hotline: 517/483-4400 Email: recycle@lansingmi.gov

RECYCLING COLLECTION FOR COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2009
Time: 8am-noon
Location: City of Lansing, Recycling Transfer Station, 530 E. South St. *(Directions from S. Washington Ave: Turn East on South St., just North of the RR tracks. The Transfer Station is at the corner of South and Beech Streets)*

Residents are responsible for removing data from hard drives and other media storage devices.



Materials accepted and fees charged:

Telephones, Cell phones, Laptops and small items such as coffee makers, vacuum cleaners and toaster **No Charge**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Stereo w/speakers | \$4.00 |
| Stereo w/o speakers | \$2.00 |
| VCR's, printers, scanners | \$2.00 |
| PC computer w/ keyboard & mouse | \$5.00 |
| Monitors <19" | \$5.00 |
| Non-console TV's | \$8.00 |
| Console TV's | \$15.00 |
| Large screen Projection TV's | \$20.00 |
| Microwave Ovens | \$8.00 |
| Large copy machines | \$40.00 |
| Personal copy machines | \$5.00 |
| Personal copy machines | \$5.00 |

GREEN YOUR HOLIDAYS!

Green Holiday & Light Recycling Event

Date: Thursday, November 19, 2009

Time: 11:00am -2:00pm

Location: Lansing City Hall lobby

Local vendors will be selling produce, baked goods, crafts and handmade gifts. Take advantage of the variety of locally made and environmentally friendly gifts this holiday season!

Kick off the season by recycling old working incandescent lights and receive up to 2 strands of new, energy efficient LED lights FREE from the BWL.

- Must live in BWL service area and show proper i.d.
- Supplies are limited. First come, first served

Can't make the Green Holiday event? Still want to recycle your old lights? Bring them to the Board of Water & Light's Customer Service Center and receive up to 2 strands of new LED lights (while supplies last.)

Location: 1232 Haco Dr., Lansing

Dates: Nov. 19 – Dec. 4

Time: M-F, 8am-5:30pm

Why LED's?

- LED lights use up to 75% less energy than standard incandescent light strings and can last up to 10 times longer.
- By using less energy, LED lights reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by burning fossil fuels at power plants.

CAMPAIGN SIGN RECYCLING

Date: November 9-13, 2009

Locations: Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster,
Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St.,
Letts Community Center, 1220 W. Kalamazoo

Time: During building hours:
(M-F, 8:30am-9:00pm/
Sat., 8:30am-5:00pm)



Lansing Keeps

GO GREEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS!



The holidays are a special time of year. Make them even more special by going green - lessen your overall environmental impact by choosing just a few ideas from this list of ways to help reduce the extra million tons of garbage produced between Thanksgiving and New Year's.

- Buy holiday cards made from recycled paper or make your own creative cards on recycled paper.
- Reuse packaging cartons and shipping materials and/or recycle what is not used.
- Recycle unusable or unwanted lights. See information on page 7.
- Use tins, old gift bags, hat boxes and other creative, reusable containers for gifts.
- Get a new TV, computer or other electronic gift for Christmas? Properly recycle and dispose of old items – see list on page 10 of this newsletter for information about where to take various items.
- Call the toll free numbers on unwanted holiday catalogs and have your name taken off of their mailing lists.



- Give a homemade gift, rather than a store bought gift, here are some ideas:

- o Give a personalized gift basket filled with homemade cookies, candies, jam, or other treats.
- o Make a family calendar marked with birthdays, anniversaries and other important dates. Decorate with family pictures.



- o Put together a photo album, scrap book, or framed collage containing pictures and mementos.
- o Frame one of your best photographs.
- o Take a friend off of junk mail lists. Generate automatic forms with your recipient's name and address at www.newdream.org/junkmail to reduce unwanted mail by 50%. Present the forms in stamped, addressed envelopes ready to sign and mail.
- o Put together a little book of favorite family recipes
- o Donate to a cause in the name of a family member
- o Sponsor a child refugee, support a homeless shelter or protect an acre of rainforest.
- o Make a rope swing, painted wooden blocks or other simple item for a child.
- o Put together old business forms, rubber stamps, file folders and other supplies to play "office."
- o Put together a collection of old dresses and crazy shoes, ties and hats for playing dress up.
- o Give gardening tools, seeds and pots of soil for an indoor garden.



Getting Greener!



Local Programs that Can Save Energy and Save you Money!

The Lansing Board of Water & Light's Hometown Energy Savers program offers several ways for residential electric customers to save energy and reduce waste in 2009.

Refrigerator/Freezer Recycling

The BWL will pay a customer \$30 for an older, operating refrigerator or freezer, and will have it hauled away - free! The purpose is to get old, energy-wasting appliances out of homes. An inefficient refrigerator can cost up to \$150 to operate annually because it uses up to three times more electricity than an energy-efficient model. More than 90 percent of each old refrigerator and freezer is recycled for other uses in an environmentally proper way, so they don't end up in a landfill.

High Efficiency Lighting

In cooperation with local participating retailers, the BWL offers \$15 rebates on purchases of ENERGY STAR light fixtures and ceiling fans. Rebate coupons can be found in area stores or on the BWL Website www.lbwl.com.

Beginning on September 1, the BWL will offer a limited number of free Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL's) to residential electric customers. Visit the BWL Website for information on how to participate. CFL's can currently be recycled at the BWL's Customer Service Center, 1232 Haco Drive.

There are also Commercial & Industrial Incentive Programs that offer cash rebates to businesses to help cover the cost of various energy-efficient upgrades.

For detailed information on how to participate visit www.lbwl.com and click on the Hometown Energy Savers icon or call 877-NRG-LBWL (877-674-5295).



Services for Customers with Limited Incomes

Limited-income residents who are BWL customers may be eligible to receive ENERGY STAR replacement products, such as refrigerators, room air conditioners, dehumidifiers and CFLs. The BWL has partnered with the Capital Area Community Services (CACS) weatherization agency to administer this program. For details, call CACS directly at 517-393-7077.

Recycling's Impact on Climate Change

Waste prevention and recycling are vital to stopping climate change. By the time a finished product reaches the consumer it has contributed significant amounts of CO2 to the atmosphere. Each raw material in a product requires energy to be mined, extracted, harvested, processed, transported, manufactured and eventually disposed. This energy consumed by each step of this process directly contributes to climate change by emitting additional carbon into the atmosphere, trapping radiant heat and resulting in the warming of the planet. Recycling and the use of recycled materials in manufacturing, therefore, uses significantly less energy than virgin material manufacturing. There is no doubt that recycling saves a considerable amount of energy in virtually every case. For instance, the EPA states that recycling aluminum cans saves 95 percent of the energy required to make the product from its virgin source. So do your part to reduce climate change and RECYCLE!

**Do your part, take the Go Green!
Pledge at GoGreenGoLansing.com**

- Reuse Options -

Creation Station - 200 Museum Drive (lower level of Impression 5 building) - Accepts beads, yarn, cardboard tubes, corks, fabric, shoe boxes and other small household items. Call 517/371-2451 before donating to make sure they need specific items.

Computers

- Goodwill stores
- Best Buy stores
- Staples stores
- Padnos Iron & Metal Co., 1900 W. Willow, Lansing. Call 372-6600 for details.
- Regional E-waste collection – see details on page 7



Home electronics (TV's, stereos, etc.)



- Best Buy stores
- Padnos Iron & Metal Co., 1900 W. Willow, Lansing. Call 372-6600 for details.
- Regional E-waste collection – see details on page 7

HARD TO RECYCLE ITEMS



Books (hard and soft cover)

Friedland Industries, 405 E. Maple, Lansing. 517/482-3000
Regional Collections: Typically held in Spring and Fall.
Check www.lansingrecycles.com for periodic updates.

Telephone books

- City of Lansing Drop off site, 530 E. South St, Lansing.

Clothing/Textiles



- Volunteers of America, 430 N. Larch, Lansing. 517/484-4414
- Other charity organizations: Look in yellow pages, under "Social Service Organizations"

Appliances/Scrap Metal



- Padnos Iron & Metal Co., 1900 W. Willow, Lansing. Call 372-6600 for details.
- Friedland Industries, 405 E. Maple, Lansing. Call 517/482-3000 for details.

- Reuse Options -

Mid Michigan Reuse Network - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mmfn>: The Mid Michigan ReUseIt Network serves the Greater Lansing area and is an on-line forum that allows users to post items they want to give away or that they need.

Plastic grocery bags

- Kroger stores
- Meijer stores
- Walmart stores

Automobile fluids (Waste Oil, antifreeze)



- Advance Auto parts
- Auto Zone
- Get complete list of drop off locations at www.lansingrecycles.com

Printer cartridges



- Staples stores
- Best Buy stores
- Office Max stores

Propane tanks

- Get complete list of drop off locations at www.lansingrecycles.com

Where To Take Items That Aren't Accepted At The Curbside

Polystyrene (Styrofoam)



- Dart Container, 3120 W. Howell Road, Mason. 517/676-6892, ext. 2206 (no peanuts)
- Foam peanuts: Call the Plastic Loosefill Council at 1-800-828-2214 for local reuse information.



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lansing, MI
Permit No. 890

Virg Bernero, Mayor

**Public Service Department
Operations and Maintenance Division
Solid Waste Reduction Services**

601 East South Street
Lansing, Michigan 48910

To Our Friends At:

**WRS HOTLINE
517/483-4400**

Find us at our web site: www.lansingrecycles.com
or email us at: recycle@lansingmi.gov

Please recycle this newsletter

Printed with soy-based ink on recycled paper



**WRS Email List—A Convenient
Way to Stay Informed**

Sign up for the recycling email list and receive emails about holiday delays, special recycling events and other updates. Go to <http://lists.cityoflansingmi.com/index.jsp> and register today!

Help keep sidewalks safe -
please promptly remove snow

